Self-Extinguishing FR Labeling Changes

There have been considerable changes to the ANSI 107 High Visibility standard. One important change addresses new care labeling requirements. Any ANSI107-2015 rated garment made from a material not inherently FR will be required to have the following statement on the care label: “This garment is not flame resistant as defined by ANSI/ISEA 107-2015”.

This will require changes to designation of Treated Polyester products we have referenced with NFPA701 in the past. Radians will continue to provide treated polyester vests for limited FR applications. The vest label will need to be labeled with “Not Flame Resistant…” These vests will now be referred to as “Self-Extinguishing”, which is a more accurate description of the material’s performance characteristics. Self Extinguishing performance is established using ASTM D6413 test method based on criteria of less than 2.0 seconds flame out and a six inch char length.

The purpose of this change is to eliminate any potential use of treated polyester vests in any applications with potential for Arc Flash or Flash Fire hazards. “Self Extinguishing” vests are only intended for incidental flammable hazards that may involve potential for exposure to welding/grinding sparks or incidental open flame.

Below is excerpt from proposed 2015 revision of ANSI107 standard:
12.2 Specific Marking

e. Statement regarding flame resistance which shall be conveyed in one of the following ways:
(1) To indicate that the HVSA has been evaluated per the one of the methods cited in Section 10.5, Flame Resistance,
A. The label shall include the letters FR followed by the designation of the specific ASTM standard used to evaluate flame resistance; or.
B. Attachment of a separate label indicating certification to NFPA 1977 or 2112.
(2) If none of the flame resistant standards in Section 10.5 are met, the label shall include the following statement:
“This garment is not flame resistant as defined by ANSI/ISEA 107- 2015